

## Mt. Lion Hunt in British Columbia

Written by James Sharkey

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**Scott had two people working for him. We would all split up and look for tracks.** Scott and I began, but after about 1 hour, 9:00am, we got a call from Harold McClaine who thought that he had found a fresh set of tracks that would be to Scott's liking! We met up with Harold and sure enough, Scott said "that's your cat and you will kill him". The area we were hunting was a flat plateau, which was timbered many years ago. The timber company cut the area up into blocks that were about 5 miles long and 2 miles across. We took to the snowmobiles and circled the block to find out if the cat had come out of the block. He did. He came out of the second block, but we could not find out where he came out of the third block. Scott then went to where we found his tracks entering the third block and followed them on foot – about 2/3 through the block and he found a 4 x 4 mule deer the cat had killed. Scott called us and gave us a GPS location to meet him. We unloaded the dogs, shed a lot of our clothes and with the 6 dogs on leashes, we went to where the mule deer was recently killed.

Then we set the dogs loose and the chase was on! The cat treed in less than ½ mile. The dogs chased him 30 feet up a pine tree. We tied up the dogs, then shot the cat out of the tree! He hit the ground and took off running!! He ran by me – at about 10 feet from me – going about 90 mph! I could not even get a shell in the chamber, let alone get off a second shot! I thought I missed the first shot – until we found lots of blood in the snow! We let the dogs loose a second time – and again, they treed the cat in another tree about 100 yards away. While we tied up the dogs, the cat fell out of the tree, stone cold dead!

I shot him with a 7 mm Weatherby using 150 grain Remington Corelock Ammunition. The approximate weight was 175 – 185 lbs. He measured 6'1" from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail. He was 8'6" from the tip of his nose to the end of his tail. His chest was 39" around.

After drying for 60 days, his skull was 14 13/16" (missed B & C but is a great cat!). What an ending for a First Day Cat!!! Scott and I spent the next 8 Days snowmobiling in some of the more remote areas of his territory, looking for other cat tracks – we found lots!!! Scott has great equipment and a tremendous Territory! He has a great Support Team in Sharon Henry the cook, Dean Hebbert and Harold McClaine, experienced dog handlers. They also have a superior pack of dogs that really know how to do their job, and they do it well!

For anyone that wants a Mountain Lion Hunt, I highly recommend that they hunt with Scott at Fraser Valley Outfitters. I do not believe that you will find a more experienced, more dedicated hunter anywhere!

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You can Contact Scott Odgers Res. 403-722-3342, Cell: 403-350-6493, E-Mail: odgers4@yahoo.ca, R.R. 3 site 3 box 60 Rocky Mountain House, Alberta Canada T4T 2A3. Scott also hunts Mule Deer, Moose, Black Bear, Lynx and Bobcat from The Williams Lake Camp in British Columbia and Big Horn Sheep in Alberta

*Submitted By James Sharkey, Lake St. Louis*